

**Health Equity Task Force established by Chapter 93 of the Acts of 2020**  
**Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, February 16, 2021 3:30PM – 5:00PM**

**Members in Attendance:** Michael Curry, Rep. Donald H. Wong, Dr. Frank Robinson, Dr. Kiame Mahaniah, Jeffrey Sanchez, Beverly Stables, Dr. Milagros Abreu, Dr. Cassandra Pierre, Hira Shah, Rep. Chynah Tyler, Rep. Liz Miranda, Rep. Carlos González, and Senator Sonia Chang-Díaz

**Excused Members:** Dr. Assaad Sayah, Dr. Myechia Minter-Jordan (represented by Brenda Cocuzzo), and Senator Julian Cyr

Co-Chair Michael Curry opened the meeting and welcomed Health Equity Task Force members and the public and then reviewed the open meeting law requirements for remote virtual meetings. The Co-Chair conducted a roll call to confirm attendance and that participants could hear the proceedings. This was followed by an approval of the minutes for the February 2<sup>nd</sup> Health Equity Task Force meeting.

The meeting focused on a discussion of draft recommendations for initial sections of the Final Report. Task Force Members have taken leadership roles in working in subgroups aligned with the legislative charge under Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2020. The agenda focused on topics stemming from Charge 1, 4, 5, and part of 7/8. On February 23, the Task Force plans to discuss the remaining topics.

Many of the recommendations covered during the meeting are unique contributions the Task Force can make to the overall discourse about how best to prioritize equity through structures in state government. Joan Quinlan provided an overview and framing of the final report

Dr. Cassandra Pierre led a discussion with contributions from Dr. Milagros Abreu, Rep. Chynah Tyler, and Rep. Donald Wong on the draft report section: Ongoing COVID-19 Response.

Co-Chair Curry provided an overview of the draft report section: Cabinet-level Multidisciplinary Office of Equity (with Equity Offices in each Secretariat) accountable for 3 - 5 year strategic plans developed in concert with input from the community and the branches of state government. This was followed by discussions, led by Joan Quinlan and Rep. Miranda with contributions by Dr. Abreu, on the draft report section: Equity Data and Dashboards to Advance Measurement, Transparency, and Accountability of progress toward equity, a foundational recommendation of the Task Force. Then, the draft report section: Equity in All Policies/Equity Impact Analysis was by summarized by Joan Quinlan. Finally, an overview of the draft report section: After-Action Report to Capture Learning for Equitable Future Pandemic or Disaster Readiness was provided by Donna Fox with contributions from Dr. Frank Robinson and Co-Chair Michael Curry.

The meeting closed with a reminder of the next February 23 (3 – 4:30 PM) Virtual Meeting of the Task Force for a further discussion of final report recommendations. The Task Force is also working with the Chairs of the MA Black and Latino Legislative Caucus (Chair Tyler) and the Asian-American Legislative Caucus (Chair Wong) to continue our critical and productive conversations to inform report recommendations.